



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 6585

LCO No. 4393

04393_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MAGNET SCHOOLS, THE HIGH SCHOOL
DROPOUT AGE, AND NOTIFICATION OF FAILING STUDENTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Education shall
2 study issues involving interdistrict magnet schools. Not later than
3 January 1, 2012, the Commissioner of Education shall report on such
4 study to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
5 cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the
6 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

7 Sec. 2. Section 10-184 of the general statutes is repealed and the
8 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

9 All parents and those who have the care of children shall bring them
10 up in some lawful and honest employment and instruct them or cause
11 them to be instructed in reading, writing, spelling, English grammar,
12 geography, arithmetic and United States history and in citizenship,
13 including a study of the town, state and federal governments. Subject
14 to the provisions of this section and section 10-15c, each parent or other
15 person having control of a child five years of age and over and under

16 eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend a public school
17 regularly during the hours and terms the public school in the district in
18 which such child resides is in session, unless such child is a high school
19 graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to
20 show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the
21 studies taught in the public schools. [For the school year commencing
22 July 1, 2011, and each school year thereafter, the parent or person
23 having control of a child seventeen years of age may consent, as
24 provided in this section, to such child's withdrawal from school. Such
25 parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office
26 and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an
27 attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator of the
28 school that such school district has provided such parent or person
29 with information on the educational options available in the school
30 system and in the community.] The parent or person having control of
31 a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child
32 to school until the child is six years of age and the parent or person
33 having control of a child six years of age shall have the option of not
34 sending the child to school until the child is seven years of age. The
35 parent or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at
36 the school district office and signing an option form. The school district
37 shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational
38 opportunities available in the school system.

39 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10-223a of the general statutes is
40 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
41 *1, 2011*):

42 (a) On or before July 1, 2000, each local and regional board of
43 education shall review and revise its policies for promotion from grade
44 to grade and for graduation in order to ensure that such policies foster
45 student achievement, reduce the incidence of social promotion and
46 meet the requirements of this section. On and after said date, such
47 policies shall: (1) Include objective criteria for the promotion and
48 graduation of students, (2) provide for the measuring of the progress

49 of students against such criteria and the reporting of such information
 50 to parents and students, (3) include alternatives to promotion such as
 51 transition programs, [and] (4) provide for supplemental services, and
 52 such policies may require students who have substantial academic
 53 deficiencies that jeopardize their eligibility for promotion or
 54 graduation to attend after school programs, summer school or other
 55 programs offered by the school district that are designed to assist
 56 students in remedying such deficiencies, and (5) require the principal
 57 of a school to notify the parent or guardian of a student in grades six to
 58 twelve, inclusive, enrolled at such school that such student is in danger
 59 of failing a course or courses at least six weeks before the grade for
 60 such course or courses is finalized.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-184
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-223a(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To conduct a study about interdistrict magnet schools; to raise the age that a student may drop out of school to eighteen; and to require principals to notify the parents or guardians of a student that such student is in danger of failing a course or courses at least six weeks before the grade in such course or courses is finalized.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]